

Chatham Township Environmental Commission
58 Meyersville Rd, Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600

Minutes of the Tuesday, April 7, 2009 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members R. Barrett, S. Carroll, F. Esposito, O. Raadam, D. Stillinger, W. O'Connor Twp. Liaison.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2009 was posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building, mentioned on the Township web site, and published in the newspapers Chatham Courier and Daily Record. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings and participate in projects.

Minutes

F. Esposito motioned to approve the minutes from March 3, 2009, O. Raadam 2nd with all in favor.

DATES FOR 2009 AND JANUARY 2010.

Every first Tuesday: Apr 7, May 5, June 2, July - no meeting, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1 in 2009, and Jan 5, 2010.

AWARDS

- NJ Clean Communities Award presented to CTEC on May 22, 2008 by the NJ Clean Communities Council for the Commission's Riverside Cleanup project. S.Hoag.
- ANJEC Environmental Awards for 2008 to CTEC: Environmental Achievement Award for Township energy and emission inventory performed by S. Carroll and K. Abbott. Environmental Achievement Commendation for Back2Tap program to limit use of plastic water bottles, directed by P. Collington and K. Abbott.

GRANT

The ESRI Corporation has awarded CTEC a free copy of ArcView for 2009. ArcView is the mapping software used to create the Township GIS website and CTEC's conservation easement map.

EVENTS

- SEVENTH ANNUAL RIVERSIDE CLEANUP. Saturday, April 18, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM.
- TOUR OF THE DODGE FOUNDATION GREEN BUILDING in Morristown. Wednesday, April 22, 4-7 p.m. 14 Maple Avenue, Morristown. Open house - all welcome.
- SUSTAINABLE JERSEY: AN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONERS' GUIDE, Wednesday April 29, 7:00pm - 9:30 pm, Bloustein School, Rutgers University, 33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick. Free to EC members. Info at ANJEC.org.
- SPRING ELECTRONICS RECYCLING. Saturday, May 2, 2009, 9-12 noon. FREE – ID required, Twp Residents ONLY

APPLICATION/LOI REVIEW

- PENDING. SHUNPIKE RECREATION FIELD. 1-21-09. Block 128, Lot 18. Application to NJDEP for flood hazard area verification, flood hazard area hardship exception for an individual permit, wetlands permit No. 11 (for construction of outfalls), wetlands special activity individual permit. Proposed activities are regrading existing landscaped lawns, construction of a synthetic turf field. The application for hardship is for constructing the new stormwater discharge in the riparian buffer and exceeding the 6,000 S.F. area of disturbance of the riparian area. Review revised draft letter to NJDEP. O. Raadam motioned to send letter, S. Carroll 2nd with all in favor.
- CLOSED. PSE&G PROPERTY ON SOUTHERN BOULEVARD. 1-20-09. Block 48.14, Lot 110. Verizon. Application to NJDEP for LOI. S. Carroll motioned to take no action or comments on this application. F. Esposito 2nd with all in favor.
- PENDING. CHATHAM DAY SCHOOL. 700 Shunpike Road. 10-31-08. Block 135, Lots 1 & 9. Application to Board of Adjustment for preliminary and final site plan approval, two conditional use variances, hardship c(1) variance for steep slopes disturbance, to demolish 3 buildings and build two new buildings with associated parking areas. Impervious cover of 16.1% is proposed, 15% allowed. There will be an additional 20,000 s.f. of impervious cover, enough to pave over a residential lot in the R-3 zone. Over 60 trees will be removed in the parking area, fewer than 30 will be replaced. 16,000 s.f. of slopes over 25% proposed to be disturbed, about 1,000 s.f. allowed. Comment memo by S. Hoag sent to Board of Adjustment. CTEC will ask for a conservation easement on northern portion which applicant says will not be used for buildings or playing fields. Report on April 4 site visit. Commission to suggest some type of detention basin for proposed parking area where trees will be removed.
- PENDING. 7 SYCAMORE DRIVE. 4-30-08. Block 38, lot 42.05. Devco Associates, LLC. Application to Planning Board for amended final site plan approval for relief from limits of slope disturbance for a house already built. Fill was

placed on the conservation easement and later rearranged. Site visit, suggests to expose monuments, fencing along easement, awaiting PB determination. F. Esposito.

- PENDING. OAK KNOLL SCHOOL. 9-11-07. Public hearing was held on 9-11-07 concerning DEP conservation easement on the Oak Knoll school property at Hickory Tree in order to replace an existing stormwater pipe. DEP and Township engineer had no objection. NJDEP issued. Work started. CTEC is following this project.
- CLOSED FOR NOW. REXCORP. 3-31-08. Block 142 Lots 1 & 2 in Chatham Township, and Block 3303 Lot 2 in Madison. Application to NJDEP for Freshwater Wetlands Permits: GP#6, GP#10A, Transition Area Averaging Plan Waiver, for a 2-phase development to create a pump-station, Giralda Farms Concert Series concert park, sanitary sewer lines, and office space. EC letters to NJDEP sent 7-18-07 and 5-6-08.
- CLOSED. 446 GREEN VILLAGE ROAD. 2-12-09. Block 144, Lot 50. R-1 (3.5 acre residential) zone. Application to NJDEP for flood hazard area verification to verify the extent of flood hazard areas and riparian zones. Letter sent to NJDEP.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Energy Subcommittee report - Commission supports and approves of themselves designated as the "Green Team" of Chatham., there will be a resolution adopted by the Township designating as such. Sustainable Jersey resolution sent to the State – O. Raadam motioned, F. Esposito 2nd with all in favor of resolution. S. Carroll

Township Committee report – Knoxbox required for multi-family dwellings, swamp loop lane shared markings, St. Huberts ground breaking. W. O'Connor.

Leaf blower – emissions and noise concerns. Will discuss with Board of Health with concerns, Montclair's leaf blower ordinance passed. R. Barrett.

Report on ANJEC training workshop on Mar. 28. – As a new commission member, getting familiar with issues & subject matters. R. Barrett.

Report on NewTech recycling tour on March 5. Demonstrated extricating computers for recycling. S. Carroll

Report on ANJEC workshop "Green by Design, Laying the Groundwork for Sustainable Development" on March 30. –

Dodge Bldg major environmental elements, strongly recommends touring. S. Carroll.

Tasks for April 18 Riverside Cleanup – [See attached](#)

EC web site - list of changes needed. (reviewing) F. Esposito.

Electronics recycling events. Saturday May 2, 2009 and Saturday October 3, 2009.

NRI – National Resources Inventory – Commission members to read NRI on twp website and decide if this is something they would like to undertake. This would be a commitment of 6 hours.

Conservation easement project - Discussed process for future notification of new homeowners informing them of conservation easement(s) on their property. Gunn property at 47 Ormont Road (the parcel that was the subject of a conservation easement violation notice to Mr. Gunn) has been sold. Letter has been sent to the new owners informing them of the conservation easement on their property. Mendham Township's tax office notifies the Environmental Commission when a property with a conservation easement changes ownership. All conservation easements are on a map on the Township GIS web site.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- March 2009. New property owner with a conservation easement - letter sent to 47 Ormont Road, letter to NJDEP re flood hazard area verification for 446 Green Village Road, letter to applicant at 446 Green Village Road.
- January 2009. Remaining 13 letters were sent to property owners with conservation easements who were visited by John Linson in October thanking them for being good stewards and noting Mr. Linson's findings.

MAIL RECEIVED (not including applications and notices mentioned above)

- Minutes of Long Hill EC and Chatham Borough EC, various newsletters, event announcements, and flyers.

OTHER

Discussion regarding proposed firehouse replacing existing firehouse located on Southern Blvd. Commission did not review plans. Concerned with drainage and stormwater issues. Commission will address issues in writing to twp committee. S. Carroll motioned and F. Esposito 2nd will all in favor to sending a letter of concern to the Township Committee.

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:42 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli, Minutes Secretary